

UNHCR, Tanmeia charity, Kuwaiti Al-Essa join to support Ramadan campaign helping refugees

# COVID-19 did not curtail Kuwait's humanitarian efforts

KUWAIT CITY, May 18: The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) office in Kuwait announced today its collaboration with Kuwaiti social media influencer, Bader Al-Essa, to raise awareness on the current situation of refugees, highlight their successful entrepreneurship stories, and amplify its Ramadan campaign, "Every gift counts" (Khayrak Yefraq), to

youth in Kuwait.

The campaign was launched in the beginning of Ramadan by UNHCR in partnership with Tanmeia Charity and was heavily boosted by Bader Al-Essa as his social media platforms to acquaint Kuwaiti youth with the effects of COVID-19 on refugees and UNHCR's humanitarian response.

"The generous support of Kuwait never fails to surprise us. In

less than a month, UNHCR have collected donations that would support 5% of the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh," said Nader El-Nakib, Head of UNHCR's Private Sector Partnerships Department in Kuwait. "By no means, Kuwaiti youth have proven their humanitarian DNA by supporting our campaign. I would like to thank Mr Bader Al-Essa for offering his social media platforms

to highlight the entrepreneurial success stories of Refugees. This cooperation will go beyond the Ramadan campaign," added El-Nakib.

In another statement, Bader Al-Essa has stressed on the importance of youth engagement in humanitarian causes and utilizing his social media platform as a tool to showcase the current status of refugees to his followers. "With the numbers of refugees

increasing on daily basis and the unmet dire needs of the most vulnerable populations, the general public are becoming numb to the cause given that it has been an ongoing crisis for the past years," explained Mr. Al-Essa. "I believe that the Arab population need to find a glimpse of hope and be well acquainted of the refugee situation so we can revive the cause and collectively support

those who are currently affected by the situation," added Mr. Al-Essa.

The campaign supports the education, food, water, and healthcare programs provided by UNHCR to refugees in Rohingya and Syria. The collaboration between UNHCR and Bader Al-Essa included a series of Instagram LIVE interviews showcasing the needs of refugees, particularly in Lebanon.



Bader Al-Essa



Nader El-Nakib

Ramadan Timings

Iftar	Tuesday	18:36
Imsak	Wednesday	03:09

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## 'Herd immunity last solution ... if total lockdown does not succeed'

Ex-ministers' take on life during & after COVID-19 crisis

KUWAIT CITY, May 18: Some former ministers of Kuwait have highlighted certain mechanisms necessary to coexist with the precautionary measures implemented during and beyond the COVID-19 crisis as establishing electronic versions of work in all government agencies and addressing the demographics, reports **Al-Qabas** daily.

They affirmed the need to adhere to all precautionary measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as well as find modern methods to develop the scientific, security and economic fields, stressing that "herd immunity is the last solution if the total lockdown does not succeed".

Former minister and lawmaker Dr. Ahmed Al-Mulaifi said, "I believe the world has changed with the COVID-19 crisis and will change further because it has unraveled many strengths and weaknesses both in the global system and in the system of each country. The crisis exposed our mistakes and negatives that we have been covering up with money. It showed us how harmful it is and how it is able to destroy the country."

He called for the need to make a lot of changes in the way of building the country.

**Mistakes**

Dr. Al-Mulaifi went on to say, "After all the mistakes we saw, especially in the field of demographics and self-sufficiency required for survival, we can no longer continue with this approach. The demographics and self-sufficiency slogan is a broad umbrella under which many reforms at the level of human resources, education and legal system fall under administration of the state. However, we are currently very busy with handling the crisis, so we must devote another team that can prepare for ways to cope with the situation after the crisis."

He explained that the world will change its dealings with technology to be more intrusive in human life and more controlling and effective so that life does not stop. For example, the outlook towards wars and power will change in the future, as epidemics and viruses will replace conventional weapons.

Dr. Al-Mulaifi called for the preparation of science and knowledge for self-defense purposes.

Meanwhile, former minister Dr. Muhammad Al-Haifi, based on his diagnosis and vision of the crisis and its repercussions, said, "The coronavirus crisis has two paths - first is that only God Almighty can end the pandemic. We have in history many examples of epidemics that eventually ended, thanks to the Lord of the World, and life returned to normal without any cost. The second path revolves around the necessity to produce an effective and safe vaccine against the virus, which would require a long time of not less than six months. In this case, life in itself will not return to normal, so we must adapt and coexist with the new life, which is dominated by physical spacing, wearing masks, washing hands, and not leaving the house except for urgent requirements."

He stated that the longer the epidemic is confronted, the higher the cost for people and countries becomes, stressing that many



Council of Ministers meeting with the Kuwait Audit Bureau officials.

KUNA photo

**Users offered access to high-definition TV shows, plays, movies**

**Kuwaiti superstar Al-Ballam partners with Eurisko Mobility for secure and accessible entertainment**

BEIRUT, Lebanon, May 18: Renowned Kuwaiti actor and comedian Hasan Al Ballam has partnered with Eurisko Mobility

to develop a Video on Demand platform, Al Ballam Group, offering users access to high-definition TV shows, plays, and movies anywhere and anytime. "Al Ballam Group, during the last few years, has shed its skin every year to appear before its audience in a completely new and different way," said Hasan Al Ballam, adding, "that is why the Al Ballam management sought to launch its very own platform."

With the COVID-19 lockdown still far from its conclusion, countless people are continuously resorting to online streaming platforms for entertainment. Therefore, Eurisko's mission was to build a highly scalable and adaptable streaming platform to accommodate Al Ballam Group's millions of monthly viewers with-

out strain, namely during the afternoon and evening, when streaming reaches its peak.

Eurisko Mobility built the Al Ballam Group platform around scalability and security. A highly secure payment mechanism was established to protect the Group from attempts of in-app purchase cracking, rendering it immune to jail-broken and rooted devices, but also to protect users' information from potential digital attacks. Eurisko similarly adopted the highest security measures to protect Al Ballam's content, as piracy remains a looming risk over intellectual property that is made available digitally. With online streaming services gradually, but swiftly, replacing television broadcasting, it was crucial for the Group to acquire an application that "protects the rights of authors, directors, producers, and artists of any tampering with the play or series that may be pirated if uploaded to

digital channels," said Hasan Al Ballam.

Al Ballam also noted that the Group's prime interest lies in the quality and value it offers its audience. To provide users with a seamless full HD Video on Demand service, "Eurisko employed the latest trends in native mobile development, combined with microservice-based backend development and DevOps infrastructure," says ZiadTawfik, CTO at Eurisko Mobility. This resulted in a widely adaptable and versatile platform, catering to a huge and increasing number of users in impeccable quality and efficiency, whether on iOS or Android smartphones, tablets, HDMI, Apple TV and Chromecast.

<https://euriskomobility.com/>  
Photo: [https://mma.pnews.wire.com/media/1168313/Hasan\\_Al\\_Ballam\\_Eurisko\\_Mobility.jpg](https://mma.pnews.wire.com/media/1168313/Hasan_Al_Ballam_Eurisko_Mobility.jpg)  
Contact: [info@euriskomobility.com](mailto:info@euriskomobility.com), +961-9-854069.

### Charities provide assistance to all needy people regardless of nationality, religion or race: Al-Hajri

KUWAIT CITY, May 18: Assistant Undersecretary for the Social Development Sector in the Ministry of Social Affairs, Hana Al-Hajri affirmed that charities provide assistance to all needy people regardless of nationality, religion or race, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

Speaking to the daily, Al-Hajri pointed out the ambiguity of a video clip that went viral on social media implying discrimination in the dis-

tribution of aid under these exceptional circumstances. She asserted it is clear from the tone of the clip that this did not happen in Kuwait, indicating the Kuwaitis have been known for their good deeds since ancient times and their "white hands" always extend to all parts of the world without considering nationality or race.

She stressed no one has the right to prevent the provision of assis-

tance to any needy person, confirming that charities and other related associations register all needy families and individuals including non-Muslims.

Meals or food baskets distributed by charitable societies are for everyone, especially in light of the current situation in the country. These activities are made possible through the tremendous efforts exerted by these societies, she added.

Dr. Al-Essa explained that Kuwait tried implementing all the measures requested by the World Health Organization from the partial curfew to total lockdown. All these measures require everyone's cooperation to reduce the number of casualties. Most people cooperated in adhering to the preventive measures. However, it is apparent that the greater percentage of infected cases are among the Asian residents; because of the nature of their communities and culture, especially in densely populated area, such as Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh, Mahboula, and others.

He said, "Infections among the members of the front-lines had slowed down the pace of the battle against COVID-19, even though we have a moderate proportion of victims who have been hospitalized and a limited rate of people who died compared to our neighboring countries."

things will change in the future. He called for the state's attention towards enhancing internal and external security.

Furthermore, former minister Fahad Al-Shula highlighted the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on social and economic security since the World Health Organization recognized the spread of the epidemic, as it has become "a source of concern for all countries of the world which has forced them to take strict measures to limit its spread".

**Slowdown**

He explained that the coronavirus crisis has caused an economic slowdown, which led to loss of many jobs. Recently, specialists stated that obtaining vaccine or finding treatment may take time and the world must coexist with the epidemic for this time.

Al-Shula said, "Coexisting with coronavirus has become imperative by taking precautionary measures such as social distancing, and enhancing community

**Prayer Timings**

Fajr	03:23
Sunrise	04:54
Zohr	11:44
Asr	15:20
Maghreb	18:35
Isha	20:03

**Weather**

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:  
**By Day:** Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas with light variable wind to light to moderate south easterly wind with speed of 06-28 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear.  
**By Night:** Fair and partly cloudy with light to moderate south easterly wind to light south westerly wind with speeds of 06-28 km/h.

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	37	28
Kuwait Airport	42	22
Abdaly	42	24
Bubyan	-	-
Jahra	42	25
Failaka Island	36	23
Salmiyah	32	25
Ahmadi	-	-
Nuwaisib	38	23
Wafra	44	20
Salmiya	42	26

**4 days forecast - Marine**

Beacon N6	-	-	3ft	NW
Qaruh Island	30	26	3ft	NW
Umm Al-Maradim	31	27	-	-
Sea Island Buoy	-	-	-	-
Salmiyah	32	25	3ft	NW

**Tuesday, May 19**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas.  
Sea state: Slight to moderate  
Wave height: 1-4 ft  
Max Temp: 41C  
Min Temp: 25C  
Wind Direction: VRB-SE  
Wind Speed: 08-32 km/h

**Wednesday, May 20**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas.  
Sea state: Slight to moderate  
Wave height: 1-4 ft  
Max Temp: 42C  
Min Temp: 26C  
Wind Direction: VRB-SE  
Wind Speed: 08-32 km/h

**Thursday, May 21**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas.  
Sea state: Slight to moderate  
Wave height: 1-4 ft  
Max Temp: 42C  
Min Temp: 26C  
Wind Direction: VRB-SE  
Wind Speed: 08-32 km/h

**Friday, May 22**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas.  
Sea state: Slight to moderate  
Wave height: 1-5 ft  
Max Temp: 42C  
Min Temp: 27C  
Wind Direction: VRB-SE  
Wind Speed: 08-35 km/h

**4 days forecast - Weather**

**Tuesday, May 19**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas.  
Sea state: Slight to moderate  
Wave height: 1-5 ft  
Max Temp: 41C  
Min Temp: 25C  
Wind Direction: VRB-SE  
Wind Speed: 08-32 km/h

**Wednesday, May 20**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas and some scattered clouds will appear.  
Max Temp: 42C  
Min Temp: 26C  
Wind Direction: VRB-VRB  
Wind Speed: 08-30 km/h

**Thursday, May 21**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas.  
Max Temp: 42C  
Min Temp: 26C  
Wind Direction: VRB-SE  
Wind Speed: 08-32 km/h

**Friday, May 22**

Expected weather: Hot and relatively humid over coastal areas.  
Max Temp: 42C  
Min Temp: 27C  
Wind Direction: VRB-SE  
Wind Speed: 08-35 km/h

**Marine Forecast**

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec	Sea Surf	Direction
South Dolphin	-	-	3ft	NW
South Dolphin	-	-	3ft	NW
Umm Mudayah	-	-	3ft	NW
Beacon M28	-	-	3ft	NW

Min/Max/ Air Temp ..... 00/-C  
Min/Max Rel Hum ..... -/-%  
Wind Direction/Wind Speed ..... Ni- km/h  
Prev Wave Dir/Max Wave Ht ..... Ni-ft  
Min/Max Sea Surface Temp ..... -/C  
Sea Current ..... Downdraft  
- Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Meteorological Department

**deaths**

**Nasser Saqer Mohammad Al Saqer**, 85 years old, buried on Sunday. Condolences: Tel. 99333803/51447446. **Bader Abdul Ghafar Mohammad Atsh**, 55 years old, buried on Sunday. Condolences: Tel. 99778755/55990229. **Hameeda Minjrel Radi**, wife of Matar Khazal Al Thewaihi, 64 years old, buried on Sunday. Condolences: Tel. 66455989/97637282.

May 18, 2020



Dr. Muhammad Al-Haifi